

IN THE COWETA JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

STATE OF GEORGIA

ORDER AND SAFETY PLAN FOR COVID-19

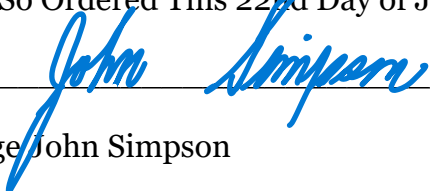
Pursuant to Chief Justice Harold Melton’s “Fourth Order Extending Declaration of Statewide Judicial Emergency,” the following shall apply:

A mask or face-covering is required for all persons entering any of the Courthouses in the Coweta Judicial Circuit.<sup>1</sup> The mask or face-covering shall remain in place so long as an individual remains on Courthouse property. Person’s with breathing problems, and children under the age of two are exempted from the face covering requirement. Six foot spacing shall be maintained between individuals in the courthouse.

Going forward, the Coweta Circuit will monitor guidelines provided by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) and local health departments to ensure the safety of employees and the public. Special emphasis is placed on the following language from the Order of Chief Justice Melton:

*All courts should continue to use and increase the use of technology to conduct remote judicial proceedings as a safer alternative to in-person proceedings, unless required by law to be in person or unless it is not practical for technical reasons for persons participating in the proceeding to participate remotely.*

It is So Ordered This 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of July, 2020.

  
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Judge John Simpson

Chief Judge, Coweta Judicial Circuit

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<sup>1</sup> The Court retains the authority to order the use of face covering pursuant to the express exception on page 32 of Governor Brian Kemp’s most recent order, which applies to “orders issued pursuant to the authority of Code Section 38-3-60 et seq.” The Georgia Supreme Court’s Judicial Emergency Order is published pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-61, and therefore meets this exception.